

APR. 8. 2004 3:18PM

EDWARDS IRV DEPT 949 250 6850

NO. 2376 P. 1

Docket No. VAS-5041DIV2

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR SECTION 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE- GROUP 3738**

Certificate of Mailing/Transmission (37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)):

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.8, I hereby certify that this paper and all enclosures are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail on the date indicated below in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.6(d), I hereby certify that this paper and all enclosures are being sent via facsimile on the date indicated below to Central Facsimile No. (703) 872-9306.

Dated:

Name of Person Certifying:
Printed Name:


Melissa Sanchez

5

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

In re Application of: Shannon, et al.) Group Art Unit: 3738 APR - 8 2004
10 Application No.: 09/981,337)
Filing Date: October 16, 2001)
15 For: RADIALLY EXPANDABLE STENTED)
TUBULAR PTFE GRAFTS)

) Examiner: Brian E. Pellegrino

OFFICIAL

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL UNDER 37 CFR §1.116

20 Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

25 Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Final Office Action dated December 11, 2003, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-referenced application in light of the following amendments and remarks.

30 Amendments to the claims are shown in the Claim Listing, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 3 of this paper.

A Petition for a one-month extension of time is also submitted herewith to extend the time for response.

35